

To the Middlesbrough Rural District Council.

Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting to you my seventh Annual Report on the health and sanitary condition of your District.

During the past year the Deaths numbered 20, 11 Males and 9 Females, giving a death rate of 10.68 per 1000.

The Births numbered 34, 21 Males and 13 Females, giving a birth rate of 18.17 per 1000.

The Birth and Death rate for the past 10 years have been

	Birth rate.	Death rate.
1903	20.55	11.22
1902	24.05	13.89
1901	23.51	11.75
1900	16.41	9.82
1899	25.64	8.67
1898	15.94	6.71
1897	17.2	11.1
1896	24.91	7.94
1895	13.67	11.80
1894	20.44	10.19

Average for the previous ten years, Birth rate 20.73, Death rate 10.29. The Birth rate for 1904 was below whilst the Death rate was slightly above the average.

Subjoined is a table classifying the Deaths according to age.

Under 1 year	4
Between 1 & 5 years	3
.. 5 & 15 ..	1
.. 15 & 25 ..	3
.. 25 & 65 ..	6
65 & Upwards	3



The following table shows the cause of death.

Zymotic Diseases  
Diarrhoea

I

Constitutional Diseases

Cancer

3

Tubercular Meningitis

I

Phthisis

I

General Tuberculosis

I

Developmental Diseases

Premature Birth

I

Senile Decay

I

LOCAL DISEASES

Diseases of Nervous System

Degeneration of Spinal Cord

I

Convulsions

I

Diseases of Respiratory System

Bronchitis

2

Lobar Pneumonia

I

Diseases of Digestive System

Jaundice

I

Diseases of Urinary System

Acute Nephritis

I

Deaths from Violence

Accident (Inquest)

I

Burns (Inquest)

I

Deaths from Ill defined Causes & Not Specified Causes

Heart failure

I

Gangrene

I

The health of the District as judged by the death rate may be regarded as very satisfactory. Rather more than a third (7) of the deaths occurred in children under five years of age, and three in people over 65 years, so that the two extremes of life accounted



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for 50% of the deaths. There was only one death from Zymotic diseases, a case of diarrhoea in an infant 3 months old. Tubercular diseases accounted for three deaths, two in young children, and one in a young adult. There were three cases of cancer all in females. Respiratory diseases accounted for three deaths, Bronchitis being given as the cause of death in an old woman of 76 years, and in an infant of three months, Pneumonia in a young man of 18 years.

Inquests were held on two cases, one on a young man who was thrown from his horse, and the other on a child of 7 years who died from burns.

#### ZYMOTIC DISEASES.

Seven cases of Scarlet Fever have been reported in your District during the year. One of a very mild type was notified in the Linthorpe District in July and was isolated at home. There was no further spread of the disease.

Six cases in two houses, three in each house, were notified in the Acklam Parish in October and November. The first case was evidently contracted at a school in Middlesbrough which the children attended and from these the second family contracted the disease. The first three cases were removed to the Sanatorium, the others were isolated at home as there was plenty of accomodation. All the houses were disinfected by your Inspector.

Measles. An outbreak of measles was reported from the Marton Parish in November. As the disease was spreading rapidly I deemed it advisable to close the schools when the epidemic rapidly subsided.

Erysipelas. Two cases were notified, one in the Hemlington Parish and the other in the Linthorpe Parish.





Puerperal Fever. A case was notified in the Marton Parish. The women in attendance were warned not to attend any other confinements. Mumps appear to have been prevalent in the Stainton Parish but as medical men were not called in to attend them, I am unable to say to what extent they prevailed.

Joint and independent systematic inspections of your district have been made by your Inspector and myself, special attention being paid by Mr. Dixon to the dairy farms and owing to his efforts the condition of these is very much better than formerly. There is still however, in a few, considerable room for improvement, the structural condition of the buildings for the most part old, partly accounting for the state of affairs.

#### Water Supply.

With the exception of the Linthorpe Parish which receives its supply from the Tees Valley Water Co. the greater part of your district is supplied from wells. The Tees Valley Water Co's Mains now extend to the Middlesbrough Borough Small-pox Hospital situated in the Parish of Hemlington, passing through the Marton Parish. Whilst in a rural district it is unavoidable that wells should be the chief source of supply, it is desirable that those parts of the district through which the Company take their Mains should more largely avail themselves of their water as notwithstanding the greatest care, wells are apt to get out of order and become polluted.

The well at Eastgate, Marton, which was mentioned in my last annual report as being polluted has been closed and the pump removed. The landlord has not as yet fulfilled his promise to lay on the Tees Valley Water Co's supply.

This state of affairs should be remedied without delay as the people in this locality are put to considerable

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inconvenience to obtain their water for domestic use.

Two new cottages at Hemlington which have recently been built receive their supply from the Tees Valley Water Co. Especial attention has been paid by your Inspector to the wells on the dairy farms & in several instances at his instigation, these have been cleaned out and put in a more satisfactory condition.

The Sanitary Condition of your district is on the whole fairly satisfactory. As in most rural districts the privy-midden system is that most commonly in use, the excrement &c being removed by the occupiers of the dwellings. A great deal necessarily depends on the attention of the people themselves to the cleaning out of their privies &c many being very careless in this respect. This difficulty could only be met, ~~so~~ far as the villages are concerned, by a system of Public Scavenging.

The following list supplied me by your Inspector shows  
the work done by him during the past year:---

Several drains opened out and cleaned.

Three pumps belonging to Council repaired.

Several private pumps attended to and repaired.

Pump at Eastgate, Marton removed.

Alteration of drain at Ingleby Barwick which was in direct communication with main drain.

Supervision of building of two cottages at Hemlington.

Inspections of sanitary arrangements wherever infectious disease has been reported and the premises disinfected when declared free from infection.

Dairies, Cowsheds & Milkshops Order.

Under this order the dairies have been regularly inspected and where required, improvements and alterations made to the order of your Inspector.

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Factory & Workshops Act.

As the district is almost purely agricultural there are no places which come under this Act.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

HENRY FAWCETT. M.D.

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